

Colonel Pantanelli loved her country unconditionally and her legacy will live on in the hearts of all those she impacted during her many years of selfless service. On behalf of New York's 21st District, it is my honor to remember and celebrate the life of Colonel Johnnie Pantanelli.

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HONORING DENISE CLAYTON

**HON. MORGAN McGARVEY**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Denise Clayton for her incredible service to Kentucky's Third District.

As a Louisville native and graduate of the University of Louisville's Brandeis School of Law, Denise was the first Black woman to serve on the Kentucky Court of Appeals, which she currently serves on as chief justice. Her dedication to break down barriers serves as an inspiration to many across Louisville. I thank Denise for her commitment to our community.

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RECOGNIZING LUCY BILLINGSLEY

**HON. BETH VAN DUYN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Ms. VAN DUYN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lucy Billingsley, a trailblazer in the real estate space and a legendary North Texan. Lucy has been selected to receive the Virginia Chandler Dykes Leadership Award from Texas Woman's University.

In 1978, Lucy and her husband Henry founded the Billingsley Company to manage their growing real estate portfolio. Thanks to their innovative approach and grit, the Billingsleys have become some of the most sought-after developers in Texas, and their company has received numerous awards for design excellence.

In addition to her work as a commercial real estate developer and business owner, Lucy has remained civically involved and has served our community through her involvement on numerous boards and advisory committees. Lucy's tenacity has brought great economic opportunity to North Texas, and her civic leadership has forever bettered our community.

Lucy has received many other prestigious accolades for her work, including being inducted into the Texas Business Hall of Fame, the Junior Achievement of Dallas Business Hall of Fame, the North Texas Commercial Association of REALTORS Hall of Fame and was awarded the 2013 H. Neil Mallon Award presented by the World Affairs Council of Dallas/Fort Worth. Lucy also has been recognized by Commercial Real Estate Women as a distinguished leader in commercial real estate.

I thank Lucy for going above and beyond for our community, and I congratulate her on this well-deserved award. Her selflessness and devotion do not go unnoticed.

RECOGNIZING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BAY PINES VA HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 90th anniversary of the Bay Pines VA Healthcare System. With the opening of its first domiciliary in 1933, Bay Pines VA became the cornerstone for Veteran healthcare throughout Tampa Bay. Now, the Bay Pines VA Healthcare System proudly serves more than 110,000 Veterans annually across the Southwest region of Florida. Since its inception, its team of dedicated professionals have worked tirelessly to foster an experience that is built on respect and transparency. The team also strives to remain Veteran-focused in all decision-making. As our community celebrates this important milestone, I'd like to congratulate Director Paul Russo and his entire team for their efforts to ensure all Veterans receive the care they've earned and deserve.

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HONORING RUBY HYDE

**HON. MORGAN McGARVEY**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor civil rights icon Ms. Ruby Hyde, or as many of us from Louisville call her, Ms. Smoketown, for her unwavering commitment to equality.

Ruby has been a community activist for decades. As the founder of the Smoketown Heritage Festival, she has dedicated herself to honoring and uplifting Louisvillians from all walks of life. From her passion for equality to her volunteer work with Wayside Ministries, Ruby is a shining example of what it means to be a leader. I thank Ruby for everything she does for our community.

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HONORING VIVIAN RODRIGUEZ AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

**HON. DARREN SOTO**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Vivian Rodriguez retired from the New York City Police Department after completing 21 years of service and achieving the highest recognition within the Detective Bureau—first grade detective.

During her law enforcement career, she served in many specialized units, including the Organized Crime Control Bureau and the Digital and Executive Protection Unit safeguarding the New York City mayor and his family. Vivian was assigned to the Intelligence Division during the 9/11 terrorist attack and was involved in various covert anti-terrorism operations to secure New York City and the homeland from future terrorist incidents. Vivian worked for several years as a consultant and

trainer with the Department of Homeland Security delivering a national Anti-Terrorism Intelligence Awareness Training Program to State and local law enforcement agencies.

Vivian relocated to Orlando, Florida, after her retirement and became active with the local Orange County Democratic Party where she eventually was elected as the vice chair. As the president of the Democratic Hispanic Caucus of Florida, Vivian advocated for Latino empowerment and inclusion and became the chair of the Florida Democratic Party Diversity and Inclusion Committee. She has been active with many Hispanic, women, and LGBTQ+ civil rights organizations including Ruth's List and the Human Rights Campaign. Additionally, she was both the president and executive director of the Gay Officers Action League in New York City and Central Florida.

In 2020, Vivian was elected as a DNC member with the Florida delegation. She currently serves on the DNC Women's Executive Committee and is the DNC LGBTQ and DNC Hispanic Caucus southern regional representative. Vivian recently retired on March 31, 2022, after serving more than 5 years as the outreach director and law enforcement coordinator for Congressman DARREN SOTO. She has also worked and contributed her campaign experience with several congressional, State, and local races.

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RECOGNIZING GARRETT HOLMES

**HON. ERIC SWALWELL**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Mr. SWALWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Alameda County Sheriff's Department Division Commander and Dublin Police Chief Garrett Holmes on the occasion of his retirement after over 28 years of service on Friday, March 17, 2023.

Growing up in Pleasanton and graduating from Amador Valley High School, Garrett has called the Tri-Valley home for over 45 years. In 2011, he graduated from the FBI National Academy, earning one of the most stringent police officer training certificates in the country.

In 1993, Garrett started his career as a Reserve Deputy with the Alameda County Sheriff's Office (ACSO), working at the North County Jail and Santa Rita Jail. In 2005, Garrett joined Dublin Police Services (DPS), serving on patrol, crime prevention, and investigations. In the years that followed, Garrett took the responsibilities of field training officer and supervisor, patrol supervisor, and administration sergeant, and rose to the rank of Lieutenant. In 2009, Garrett left DPS to serve with ACSO as a Captain and Commanding Officer at the Oakland International Airport.

In 2015, Garrett returned to DPS to oversee operations and administration and, in December 2017, was promoted to Division Commander and Police Chief. Under Garrett's leadership, DPS initiated transparent and accessible community policing, offering regular meetings with the public, publishing a Dublin Police Annual Report, and hosting "Coffee with the Chief" events.

Outside of his career, Garrett has consistently engaged with the community, coaching local Pleasanton soccer and softball teams.

Garrett and his family also run a statewide nonprofit called "Cal Rare" that focuses on advocating for rare disease patients.

For nearly 30 years, Garrett has diligently served the Alameda County community. His dedication to community safety and transparency has made him an asset at DPS and the community. I wish him well-deserved rest, relaxation, and many Major League Baseball stadium visits with his wife, Angela, and his children, Delaney, Cassidy, and Andrew, as he enters this new chapter.

#### HONORING PHOEBE WOOD

#### HON. MORGAN MCGARVEY

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Phoebe Wood as part of Women's History Month.

As one of Louisville's most active angel investors, Phoebe was named the 2016 Business First Louisville Woman of Achievement, and was named to the Junior Achievement Kentuckiana Business Hall of Fame in 2019. She currently chairs the board of trustees for the American Printing House for the Blind, demonstrating her continued commitment to some of our most vulnerable communities. I thank Phoebe for her service to Kentucky's Third District.

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. VITO IMBASCIANI

#### HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Vito Imbasciani who is retiring after nearly eight years as Secretary of the California Department of Veterans Affairs.

Vito Imbasciani earned his master's degree and doctorate from Cornell University before attending the University of Vermont College of Medicine where he earned his medical degree. He then attended Yale University School of Medicine where he completed his internship and residency in general surgery and his fellowship in urology.

Dr. Imbasciani's highly decorated career began in 1986 as a surgeon for the U.S. Army Medical Corps where he continued to serve for nearly three decades. During his time serving as a surgeon for the Medical Corps he also held the position of State Surgeon for the California Army National Guard, where he advised the Adjutant General on health issues impacting thousands of national guard members, while working as a field surgeon in Iraq and a Level 3 surgeon at the Landstuhl Army Hospital in Germany. In total he had four deployments including the liberation of Kuwait, Operation Desert Storm and the Global War against Terrorism, earning the rank of colonel and receiving awards such as the Combat Medic Badge and the Meritorious Service Award. In addition to serving his state and country, Dr. Imbasciani worked as Director of Government Relations and as a urologic surgeon for Southern California Permanente Medical Group (Kaiser Permanente).

During the time of his military service, Vito had to conceal his sexual identity due to the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. However, because of the unwavering efforts of then-President Obama which resulted in the 2010 repeal of the policy—which Vito was recognized by the president as a source of inspiration for—Dr. Imbasciani and thousands of other service members can now serve their country openly and proudly. Vito's support of the LGBTQ+ community is evident by the creation of a lecture fund, with his spouse, George DiSalvo, in 2013 with the aim of ensuring culturally capable physicians who can provide prevention services and medical care specific to the LGBTQ+ community.

In 2015, Dr. Imbasciani was appointed by then-Governor Jerry Brown as Secretary of the California Department of Veterans Affairs and was reappointed by Governor Gavin Newsom in 2020.

Under Dr. Imbasciani's stellar leadership, the California Department of Veterans Affairs has seen numerous successes, including greatly reducing the backlog of veterans' benefit claims, assisting veterans with receiving home loans, providing funding for thousands of veteran housing units, increasing outreach to women and minority veterans, and providing legal assistance to veterans seeking citizenship. Other noteworthy accomplishments include introducing the California Transition Assistance Program (CalTAP) to educate veterans about their benefits, opening a long-awaited cemetery in Monterey County for veterans and eligible family members, providing veterans with much-needed mental health treatment, and one of his personal highlights, achieving the best nursing home ratings from U.S. News and World Report for their homes in Redding, Yountville, Chula Vista, Barstow and Fresno.

Dr. Vito Imbasciani has been an invaluable asset and outstanding public servant and I ask all Members to join me in thanking him for his service as Secretary of the California Department of Veterans Affairs.

#### HONORING RUTHANNE CONNOR-KING AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

#### HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, as regular visitors from Syracuse, Ruthanne and her husband knew that Hunter's Creek was the place for them after retirement in 2014. Ruthanne immediately began exploring opportunities for involvement. She joined her neighborhood committee and became an active member of the Council of Directors, comprised of all neighborhood representatives. She joined the Hunter's Creek Emergency Response Team, whose training allows resident assistance in an emergency, such as a hurricane.

In 2015, Ruthanne was elected to the Hunter's Creek Community Association Master Board of Directors. She has served faithfully and is currently president; she previously served as director, secretary, and vice president. Ruthanne has been involved in countless initiatives, including working with local

government to voice concerns regarding a proposal to bisect Hunter's Creek by using the 417 as a highspeed rail corridor. She worked tirelessly to fight development of the former Hunter's Creek Golf Course parcel, since current infrastructure cannot support dense growth. Her involvement in the community's multi-million-dollar investment in responsible stormwater management has been crucial in maintaining Hunter's Creek as a premier community. She was chosen by Commissioner Nicole Wilson to participate in county redistricting efforts. She is a proponent of a plan to maximize community greenspaces.

Ruthanne is very vocal about volunteerism and its essential role in maintaining a thriving and vibrant society. Though her career experience has served her well, she possesses qualities that easily surpass her business background. Ruthanne's care for the community and its people is unparalleled. An advocate for open lines of communication and civil discourse, she is respectful of all views and strives to make the best decisions for the greater good, which can be challenging with input from a population of 25,000. Ruthanne is a strong leader and her indelible mark upon her community will remain for generations to come.

#### INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION REQUIRING MEMBERS AND STAFF TO RECEIVE MEDICAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TRAINING

#### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

THE OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2023*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce a resolution to amend the Rules of the House of Representatives to require every Member, officer and employee of the House of Representatives to receive medical emergency preparedness training, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED). Requiring all Members and staff to be trained in medical emergency preparedness would help ensure that care is immediately available to those in the Capitol Complex experiencing a medical emergency.

Individuals trained in medical emergency preparedness can provide vital care during medical emergencies. When Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords was wounded during a 2011 mass shooting, Daniel Hernández Jr., her 20-year-old college intern, provided Giffords with lifesaving CPR.

When responding to a medical emergency, every second counts. For example, immediate CPR and the use of an AED can make a critical difference for those experiencing cardiac arrest. CPR can double or triple the chance of surviving a cardiac arrest, and the survival rate of cardiac arrest decreases by ten percent for every minute that defibrillation is delayed.

Millions of Americans saw the value of CPR and the use of an AED during the Buffalo Bills football game on January 2, 2023, when Bills player Damar Hamlin suffered cardiac arrest during the game. Team personnel performed CPR and used an AED on Hamlin, likely saving his life.